

W 7 G J

144 MHz

EME

50 MHz

W 7 G J

MONTANA

USA

DN27ub

W7GJ Cfms QSO with N9BCA
at 1924 UTC on 12 June '09
FREQ: 50.190 MHZ SIGS: 53

MODE: CW ☐ SSB ☒ Digital ☐

PROP: EME ☐ Tropo ☐ Es ☒ F2 ☐
Iono Scatter ☐ Aurora ☐ Meteors ☐

PREAMP: ~~Ant~~ mounted GaAsFET ☒

RIG: TS830S ☐ IC746 ☐ K3 ☒ ☐

AMP: 8877 ☐ ☐ PWR: 1500 W

ANT: ☐

70' long boom 6M11JKV yagi at 70' ☐

Fully steerable 16 x 17 element KLM LBX
yagis fed with 1-5/8" Helix & phased with 3/4"
CATV hardline for 2m EME, 26 dBd ☐

Fully steerable 4 x 9 element M² 6M9KHW
yagis fed with 1-5/8" Helix & phased with
LMR 600 for 6m EME, 18.7 dBd ☒

REMARKS: TNX AND 73,
LANCE

OP: Lance Collister TEL: 406 626-4728

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2m DXCC #11, July 16, 1999

6m DXCC #815, June 25, 2005

EX: WA3GPL, C6A/WA1JXN, ZF8/ZF2OC

☐ PSE

QSL

TNX ☒

UX5UO print

I was first licensed in September, 1965, and my first contact was on 2m AM. It didn't take long before I became active on SSB and CW chasing DX on 2m tropo, aurora and meteor scatter. I wrote my first moontracking computer program in 1974, and heard my first 2m EME signals in May of that year. On March 17, 1978 I completed my first 2m EME contact with W6PO. For the following 25 years, my ham radio interests were focused on 2m EME, both from Vermont and later from Montana. I also made four DXpeditions to the Bahamas and operated the first 2m EME from both there and the Cayman Islands. The 2m EME array turned out to be handy for other things, too — in December 1983 I was the first private citizen to chat with an astronaut by contacting Dr. Owen Garriot aboard the Columbia Space Shuttle. In 1996, I built an antenna and amplifier for 6m, and began chasing DX on that band. My first 6m EME contact was on October 21, 1996, and it didn't take long before I also was improving the station on that band to detect ever weaker

signals. By early 2002, K1JT had introduced his first revolutionary software program to facilitate contacts with extraordinarily weak signals using specialized digital techniques. On April 21, 2002 I completed my first 6m contact with Africa, — a half million mile distance to the moon and back to ZS6WB, who also was using a single yagi and digital mode. Having struggled for a quarter century to hear very weak CW signals returning from the moon, I was more than ready for the giant technology leap that came with K1JT's new digital modes! Now digital is the most frequently used mode on 2m EME, and is almost exclusively used around the world on 6m EME. Over the last 50 years, there certainly have been many incredible changes in our hobby as the result of technology and one can only imagine what the future holds. I know one thing for sure, though — I have never experienced so much fun and excitement in ham radio as in recent years! Special thanks to all the DX stations who have made these years so exciting with contacts on all modes!